

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/732,089

Examiner

Hussein A. El-chanti

Applicant(s)

MILLER ET AL.

Art Unit

2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3/8/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 33,36,40-43,57-63,65 and 70-75.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/06
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

ABDULLAH SALAD
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. This action is responsive to RCE received on March 8, 2006.
2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Richard Boucher on April 7, 2006.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

- **In the specification**, the full paragraph starting on page 8 lines 1 and ending on page 9 line 17 has been replaced by:

- Application Serial No. 09/731,560, issued as Patent No. 6,774,919, entitled "An Interface and Related Methods for Reducing Source Accesses in a Development System", naming Daniel J. Miller and Eric H. Rudolph as inventors, and bearing attorney docket number MS1-643US;
- Application Serial No. 09/732,084, issued as Patent No. 6,834,390, entitled "A System and Related Interfaces Supporting the Processing of Media Content", naming Daniel J. Miller and Eric H. Rudolph as inventors, and bearing attorney docket number MS1-629US;
- Application Serial No. 09/731,490, issued as Patent No. 6,983,466, entitled "A System and Related Methods for Reducing Source Filter Invocation in a Development Project", naming Daniel J. Miller and Eric H. Rudolph as inventors, and bearing attorney docket number MS1-631US;
- Application Serial No. 09/732,452, entitled "A System and Related Methods for Reducing Memory Requirements of a Media Processing System", naming Daniel J. Miller and Eric H. Rudolph as inventors, and bearing attorney docket number MS1-632US;

Art Unit: 2157

- Application Serial No. 09/731,529, issued as Patent No. 6,961,943, entitled "A System and Related Methods for Reducing the Instances of Source Files in a Filter Graph", naming Daniel J. Miller and Eric H. Rudolph as inventors, and bearing attorney docket number MS1-633US;
- Application Serial No. 09/732,087, issued as Patent No. 6,959,438, entitled "An Interface and Related Methods for Dynamically Generating a Filter Graph in a Development System", naming Daniel J. Miller and Eric H. Rudolph as inventors, and bearing attorney docket number MS1-634US;
- Application Serial No. 09/732,090, issued as Patent No. 6,611,215, entitled "A System and Related Methods for Processing Audio Content in a Filter Graph", naming Daniel J. Miller and Eric H. Rudolph as inventors, and bearing attorney docket number MS1-639US;
- Application Serial No. 09/732,085, entitled "A System and Methods for Generating and Managing Filter Strings in a Filter Graph", naming Daniel J. Miller and Eric H. Rudolph as inventors, and bearing attorney docket number MS1-642US;
- Application Serial No. 09/731,491, issued as Patent No. 6,768,499, entitled "Methods and Systems for Processing Media Content", naming Daniel J. Miller and Eric H. Rudolph as inventors, and bearing attorney docket number MS1-640US;
- Application Serial No. 09/731,563, issued as Patent No. 6,954,581, entitled "Systems for Managing Multiple Inputs and Methods and Systems for Processing Media Content", naming Daniel J. Miller and Eric H. Rudolph as inventors, and bearing attorney docket number MS1-635US;
- Application Serial No. 09/731,892, issued as Patent No. 6,912,717, entitled "Methods and Systems for Implementing Dynamic Properties on Objects that Support Only Static Properties", naming Daniel J. Miller and David Maymudes as inventors, and bearing attorney docket number MS1-638US;
- Application Serial No. 09/731,581, entitled "Methods and Systems for Effecting Video Transitions Represented By Bitmaps", naming Daniel J. Miller and David Maymudes as inventors, and bearing attorney docket number MS1-637US;
- Application Serial No. 09/732,372, issued as Patent No. 6,882,891, entitled "Methods and Systems for Mixing Digital Audio Signals", naming Eric H. Rudolph as inventor, and bearing attorney docket number MS1-636US; and
- Application Serial No. 09/732,086, entitled "Methods and Systems for Processing Multi-media Editing Projects", naming Eric H. Rudolph as inventor, and bearing attorney docket number MS1-641US.

- Claims 1-32, 34, 35, 37-39, 44-56, 64 and 66-69 are **canceled**.
- **33. (Currently amended)** A multi-media editing system comprising:

a first software-implemented matrix switch comprising one or more first input pins and one or more first output pins, the one or more first input pins being routable to the one or more first output pins, the first matrix switch being configured to process one or more uncompressed data streams and output an uncompressed output data stream;

a second software-implemented matrix switch comprising one or more second input pins and one or more second output pins, the one or more second input pins being routable to the one or more second output pins, the second matrix switch being configured to process one or more compressed data streams and output a compressed output data stream; and

a third software-implemented matrix switch comprising multiple third input pins and multiple third output pins, the multiple third input pins being routable to the multiple third output pins, the third matrix switch being configured to receive [[an]] the uncompressed output data stream from the first switch and [[a]] the compressed output data stream from the second switch and process the [[received data]] uncompressed output and the compressed output streams to provide a single compressed output data

Art Unit: 2157

stream that represents a user-defined multi-media editing project in which a user can construct said editing project by operating one or more sources of multimedia content that provide said one or more uncompressed and said one or more compressed data streams,

wherein at least one of said first, second and third matrix switches comprises a scalable plurality of said first, second and third input pins and a scalable plurality of said first, second and third output pins, wherein individual input pins of said scalable plurality of said first, second and third input pins can be iteratively coupled to individual output pins of said scalable plurality of said first, second and third output pins based at least in part on the user's operation on said one or more sources of multimedia content;

a software-implemented compressor element coupled with the third switch and configured to receive and compress the output uncompressed stream into a second compressed output data stream; and

a feedback path between the compressor element and an input pin of the third switch configured to provide the second compressed output data stream to the third switch's input pin.

- **40. (Currently Amended)** A multi-media editing system comprising:
a first software-implemented matrix switch comprising one or more first input pins and one or more first output pins, the one or more first input pins being routable to the one

Art Unit: 2157

or more first output pins, the first matrix switch being configured to process one or more uncompressed data streams and output an uncompressed output data stream;

a second software-implemented matrix switch comprising one or more second input pins and one or more second output pins, the one or more second input pins being routable to the one or more second output pins, the second matrix switch being configured to process one or more compressed data streams and output a compressed output data stream;

a third software-implemented matrix switch comprising multiple third input pins and multiple third output pins, the multiple third input pins being routable to one or more of the multiple third output pins, the third matrix switch being configured to receive ~~[[an]]~~ the uncompressed output data stream from the first switch and ~~[[a]]~~ the compressed output data stream from the second switch and process the ~~[[received data]]~~ uncompressed output and compressed output streams to provide a single compressed output data stream that represents a user-defined multi-media editing project in which a user can construct said editing project by operating on one or more sources of multimedia content that provide said one or more uncompressed and said one or more compressed data streams; and

one or more data structures associated with at least some of the first, second, and third matrix switches and configured for use in programming the associated first, second, and third switches to provide a routing scheme for routing said first, second, and third input pins to said first, second, and third output pins,

wherein at least one of said first, second and third matrix switches comprises a scalable plurality of said first, second and third input pins and a scalable plurality of said first, second and third output pins, wherein individual input pins of said scalable plurality of said first, second and third input pins can be iteratively coupled to individual output pins of said scalable plurality of said first, second and third output pins based, at least in part, on the user's operation on said one or more sources of multimedia content;

a software-implemented compressor element coupled with the third software-implemented matrix switch and configured to receive and compress the uncompressed output stream into a second compressed output data stream; and

a feedback path between the compressor element and an input pin of the third software-implemented matrix switch configured to provide the second compressed output data stream to the third software-implemented matrix switch's input pin.

57. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to:

provide a switch assembly comprising multiple software-implemented matrix switches, individual matrix switches comprising one or more input pins and one or more output pins, the one or more input pins being routable to the one or more output pins, the switch assembly comprising:

a first switch configured to process uncompressed data streams to provide an uncompressed output data stream;

Art Unit: 2157

a second switch configured to process compressed data streams to provide a compressed output data stream; and

a third switch configured to receive both the uncompressed and compressed output data streams and process the uncompressed and compressed output data streams to provide a single compressed output data stream that represents a user-defined multi-media editing project in which a user can construct said editing project by operating on one or more sources of multimedia content that provide said uncompressed and said compressed data streams, wherein at least one of said first, second and third matrix switches comprises a scalable plurality of said input pins and a scalable plurality of said output pins, wherein individual input pins of said scalable plurality of input pins can be iteratively coupled to individual output pins of said scalable plurality of output pins based, at least in part, on the user's operation on said one or more sources of multimedia content; and

a software-implemented compressor element coupled with the third switch and configured to receive and compress the uncompressed output data stream into a second compressed output data stream;

a feedback path between the compressor element and an input pin of the third switch configured to provide the second compressed output data stream to the third switch's input pin; and

program the switch assembly by defining a first grid structure containing data that defines an association between the first switch's input pins, at least one output pin and a time line defined by the editing project, and defining a second grid structure containing

Art Unit: 2157

data that defines an association between the second switch's input pins, at least one output pin and the time line defined by the editing project.

- **63. (Currently Amended)** A multi-media editing method comprising:
 - providing a first software-implemented matrix switch comprising one or more first input pins and one or more first output pins, the one or more first input pins being routable to the one or more first output pins, the first matrix switch being configured to process one or more uncompressed data streams and output an uncompressed output data stream;
 - providing a second software-implemented matrix switch comprising one or more second input pins and one or more second output pins, the one or more second input pins being routable to the one or more second output pins, the second matrix switch being configured to process one or more compressed data streams and output a compressed output data stream;
 - providing a third software-implemented matrix switch comprising multiple third input pins and multiple third output pins, the multiple third input pins being routable to one or more of the multiple third output pins, wherein at least one of said first, second and third software-implemented matrix switches comprises a scalable plurality of said first, second and third input pins and a scalable plurality of said first, second and third output pins, wherein individual input pins of said scalable plurality of said first, second and third input pins can be iteratively coupled to individual output pins of said scalable

Art Unit: 2157

plurality of said first, second and third output pins based, at least in part, on the user's operation on said one or more sources of multimedia content;

receiving, with the third matrix switch, [[an]] the uncompressed output data stream from the first switch and [[a]] the compressed output data stream from the second switch; and

processing the received uncompressed output and compressed output data streams with the third switch to provide a single compressed output data stream that represents a user-defined multi-media editing project in which a user can construct said editing project by operating on one or more sources of multimedia content that provide said one or more uncompressed data streams and said one or more compressed data streams data streams, wherein said processing the received uncompressed output data stream comprises:

compressing the uncompressed data stream received from the first switch using a software-implemented compressor element coupled with the third switch; and
routing the compressed data stream that was compressed by the compressor element to an input pin of the third switch.

- **70. (currently amended)** One or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to:

receive and process one or more uncompressed data streams with a first software-implemented matrix switch comprising one or more first input pins and one or

Art Unit: 2157

more first output pins, the one or more first input pins being routable to the one or more first output pins to output an uncompressed output data stream;

receive and process one or more compressed data streams with a second software-implemented matrix switch comprising one or more second input pins and one or more second output pins, the one or more second input pins being routable to the one or more second output pins to output a compressed output data stream;

receive and process the uncompressed output data stream that is output by the first switch and the compressed output data stream that is output by the second switch with a third software-implemented matrix switch comprising multiple third input pins individual ones of which receive data streams, and one or more third output pins individual ones of which provide data streams, the one or more multiple third input pins being routable to the one or more multiple third output pins to output, at one output pin, a compressed data stream that represents a user-defined multi-media editing project in which a user can construct said editing project by operating on one or more sources of multimedia content that provide said one or more uncompressed data streams and said one or more compressed data streams, wherein at least one of said first, second and third matrix switches comprises a scalable plurality of said first, second and third input pins and a scalable plurality of said first, second and third output pins, wherein individual input pins of said scalable plurality of said first, second and third input pins can be iteratively coupled to individual output pins of said scalable plurality of said first, second and third output pins based, at least in part, on the user's operation on said one

Art Unit: 2157

or more sources of multimedia content, wherein processing the uncompressed output data stream that is output by the first switch comprises:

compressing the uncompressed output data stream using the third switch;

provide the second compressed output data stream to the third software-implemented matrix switch's input pin.

- **71. (Currently Amended)** The computer-readable media of claim 70, wherein the instructions cause the computer to:

~~compress the uncompressed data stream output by the first switch using the third switch; and~~

incorporate the compressed uncompressed data stream with the compressed data stream that is output by the second switch to provide the compressed data stream that represents the user-defined editing project.

4. claims 33, 36, 40-43, 57-63, 65 and 70-75 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to teach neither singly or in combination the claimed limitation of "compressor element coupled with the third switch and configured to receive and compress the output uncompressed stream into a second compressed output data stream and a feedback path between the compressor element and an input

Art Unit: 2157

pin of the third switch configured to provide the second compressed output data stream to the third switch's input pin" as in claims 33, 36, 40-43, 57-63, 65 and 70-75.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

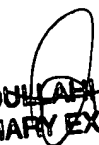
7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hussein A. El-chanti whose telephone number is (571)272-3999. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (571)272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hussein El-chanti

April 10, 2006


ABDULLAH SALAD
PRIMARY EXAMINER